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Thousands without power after storm

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

After Saturday's storm, some residents of Haliburton County began their week without power.

According to Hydro One, damage is severe and power outages extensive after a massive wind storm swept through the province beginning Saturday afternoon and ending into the night.

"On Saturday, we saw an extreme wind storm come into the province, and that wind stayed out throughout the night, so over 100 kilometres per hour winds," said Richard Francella, Hydro One spokesperson, who spoke to the *Echo* on Sunday evening. "This is one of the worst wind storms we've seen in recent years. As a result of the extreme winds we've seen the winds knock power off to more than 450,000 customers across the province."

While the most recent storm that was comparable was in 2018, Francella said, damage is still being discovered.

"Our crews are still in areas looking at damage, assessing it, seeing how they can restore power."

About 24 hours after the winds began, 335,000 people have had power restored, while 115,000 customers remained without power.

see HIGHER page 3



Open Stage open hearts

Tory Hill's Hank O'Reilly sings an original song during the Open Stage event at the Royal Canadian Legion on Saturday, Dec. 11 in Haliburton. See photos on page 14. /DARREN LUM Staff

Amendments may return all Dysart e-waste collection

DARREN LUM

Editor

A province-wide issue related to provincial regulations about e-waste is leaving some communities in rural townships without collection service.

This message was delivered by Municipality of Dysart et al's environmental manager, John Watson, as part of his report on electronic waste recycling collection and processing during Dysart's committee of the whole meeting on Dec. 7 via YouTube.

Up until September of this year, Com2

Recycling Solutions were collecting e-waste, or what the province refers to as Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE), at Dysart's landfills: Haliburton, Harcourt, Kennisis Lake, West Bay and West Guilford.

see VENDORS page 3

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Running down festive cheer

Five-year-old Hazel Alder of Minden runs with her friend Eliza Ramsdale of Haliburton, seven, at the Jolly Jog on Sunday, Dec. 12 in Haliburton. Organized by the Municipality of Dysart et al, the annual event drew 17 participants, who ran and walked the three routes available, which all started at the Haliburton Highlands Museum. Formerly the Ugly Sweater Run, the event was not held last year because of the pandemic. /DARREN LUM Staff



Carolyn Alder of Minden was among the decorated participants, showing their festive spirit at the Jolly Jog.



Municipality of Dysart et al manager of programs and events Andrea Mueller shows how to dress for the Jolly Jog on Sunday, Dec. 12 in Haliburton.



Haliburton Highlands Museum director Kate Butler, far left, reads out a name for a draw at the Jolly Jog.

Correction

From the *Echo* Dec. 7 issue, the story, *Haliburton Land Trust seeking nominations for Enviro-Hero Awards*, incorrectly stated the Land Trust protects and maintains five properties in Haliburton County, totalling 12,000 acres of forest and wetlands. It is 1,200 acres.

Correction

In the article, *Annual Nutcracker ballet returns with virtual performance* incorrectly in the Dec. 7 *Echo* issue incorrectly referenced the Haliburton Highlands Performing Arts Foundation. It is the Haliburton Highlands Arts Centre Foundation.

County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current High Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to Date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	3	28	0	163	159	4	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	33	91	2	1,400	1,322	55	45	13
Northumberland	15	71	0	1,094	1,062	42	17	0
Total***	51	202	2	2,657	2,543	101	63	13

Numbers on the rise

Three new cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in Haliburton County in the public health unit’s report on Dec. 13. City of Kawartha Lakes confirmed 15 new cases and Northumberland County reported nine new cases in Monday’s report. As of Dec. 13, outbreaks were ongoing at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, My Tot Spot daycare facility, three elementary schools including J.Douglas Hodgson Elementary in Haliburton, and the Lindsay Minor Hockey BB Team. /HKPR screenshot

Higher concentration of affected served first

from page 1

"We have deployed all available resources," said Francella. "We have additional crews from other areas that weren't impacted as badly, to come in and assist. Our crews are out there in full force right now, making those repairs, because we're seeing approximately 3,500 active outages."

In the central region, which includes Haliburton County, 50,000 customers were without power on Sunday evening.

"We're seeing a lot of smaller outages in harder-to-reach areas so we're using helicopters and off-road equipment to assess the damage and to make those repairs, but what we are seeing in terms of the damage, it's really extensive and it's quite severe," said Francella. "We're

seeing broken poles, we're seeing fallen trees, we're seeing downed power lines, so it's really important that customers stay safe and stay beyond the 10 metres of power lines. Through this damage we do anticipate some customers to be without power for the remainder of the day, and some customers could be without power beyond Monday as well."

As for customers wondering when their area might see power again, Hydro One's power outage storm centre map shows areas in Haliburton County with hundreds of customers and areas with fewer customers – Francella said that the areas with higher numbers of customers could see their power on first.

"We prioritize getting lights back on to the greatest number of customers in the shortest period," he said.

Vendors just following regulations

from page 1

A year before, the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks approved the Ontario Regulation 522/20 Electrical and Electronic Equipment, under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016. This regulation, which came into effect on Jan. 1, 2021, states for service for municipalities with 500,000 people or less that there be "at least one EEE collection site for every 15,000 people or portion thereof."

Com2 Recycling Solutions reduced their service from collecting at five sites to just Haliburton based on the lack of or low volume of e-waste, the cost of bin rentals and this new regulation.

Watson offered optimism that regulation amendments could be coming in the new year to return service to the other landfills.

"This is becoming an issue across the province. There's been municipalities and other parts of the province that are experiencing the same issue with vendors ceasing to collect each from multiple municipal sites and, just recently at the end of November, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks announced two proposed amendments to this regulation," Watson said. "So, consultation is starting and will end on Jan. 10 of 2022 and Dysart et al staff will be taking part in a webinar, but the proposed amendment changes later this month. Some of the challenges identified are specifically this kind of issue that we are encountering where vendors are not necessarily servicing all the sites they had in the past under the previous regulations [regulation 389/16: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment]. So again, e-waste is accepted at the Haliburton landfill and, hopefully, going forward we'll be able to reinstate that service at the other landfill sites, but at the moment, just Haliburton."

Dysart et al staff investigated other service providers for e-waste collection for all the landfills in the municipality. Before an agreement could be finalized with one potential service provider, they withdrew their services due to the costs.

The EEE recycling program makes Dysart et al money. To date in 2021, the township has received \$6,302.64 from the metric tonnes of EEE recycled.

From signage alerting residents of the service reduction posted by the township at Harcourt, Kennis Lake, West Bay and

West Guilford landfill sites: In Ontario, the producers and manufacturers of electronics are responsible for funding electronics recycling programs. Provincial regulation requires that these producers and manufacturers provide one electronics recycling drop-off location in a municipality with the population size of the Municipality of Dysart et al.

Mayor Andrea Roberts expressed concern at this recent change.

"It should just be based on a population factor. It should be a distance factor in there as well," she said. "It could be something as simple as just pick up twice a year or pick up when we call you."

Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy asked about what would be involved to have staff transport e-waste.

If municipality wants to transport e-waste, there will be financial and operational costs, Watson said. This entails training for staff and to have vehicles receive appropriate designations to be a "waste hauler," as part of the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).

"You can amend the ECA, which has a cost of 'x' dollars, but then you need to have the operational costs to run a program. So, if we want to collect UV bulbs, besides amending the ECA, we need to have the staff in place to be able to monitor that – the capital for a building. It's more than simply amending an ECA and we can take anything. We need to have infrastructure in place to manage that material, whether it be electronics, hazardous waste or organics. There are costs incurred to manage those additional items," he said.

Clearly frustrated and exasperated by the situation and the discussion, Councillor Walt McKechnie asked, "Can't we just throw e-waste in the back of a truck?"

Roberts said, "No, but let's not blame John Watson."

McKechnie clarified his anger wasn't directed at Watson, but the situation with the provincial regulations.

"Where are we going with this?" he said.

Roberts answered, "Some things don't always make sense, but on a grander scale we're thinking of our operation ... Provincial governments make rules for the GTA and the Golden Horseshoe and I know we're just small potatoes up here, but I do think there is a solution and we'll wait until John has had that webinar."

Watson will report back in February.

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Wallings Road development dominates county meeting

CHRIS DROST

Staff Reporter

The discussion surrounding the alternative traffic options for the intersection of County Rd. 21 and Wallings Road encompassed much of the Dec. 8 meeting of Haliburton County council.

Robert Sutton, director of Public Works opened this portion of the meeting by stating that staff had been instructed to look at three options presented by Dysart et

al. The question is what is the main vehicle for ensuring they are studied. Sutton stated that a new Traffic Impact Study is encouraged and to have the municipality participate with the proponents (developers) in the study. "If they study all the options and an internal road is still needed, lands will have to be set aside for this," said Sutton.

In response, Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts indicated she was still confused. It is her understanding that Dysart et al commissioned a study regarding the Places for People project and it revealed that the intersection could support the number of units for the project. "When

the county study was done, we weren't aware of the amount of growth as now," added deputy clerk, Michael Moore.

Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Patrick Kennedy replied that a temporary driveway was mentioned.

"We first need to decide where the road will go. After that, other things can happen," said Kennedy. He reminded council that they had been given the Dysart et al study, but "it has not been mentioned here." Kennedy questioned why another study is needed, if the one done in 2020 is not being considered. "Asking for another study and peer review is too much," he added.

Warden Liz Danielsen questioned whether or not council has all the information, or if it is qualified to make this decision. "Getting another independent study could be too much money," she said. She suggested that if AECOM does an update, they could be asked to also look at the 2020 study.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt agreed, saying she wasn't certain about paying for another study.

"I agree that the amount of growth is phenomenal but we need to be cautious about it too. We want to make sure there is a continued partnership in growth," she said.

Deputy clerk Michael Moore added that "when the county study was done, we weren't aware of the amount of growth as now."

"It is wonderful and exciting but I want to disentangle things," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin. He stated that the county and Dysart need to work together to deal with growth in this area. "Is there a way to take the best of both reports to determine a path to avoid another study?" he asked. To him, the time consuming part is of more concern than the cost.

Mayor Roberts reiterated that the three questions that have been put forward need to be addressed. Ultimately, she suggested that they need to look for the safest way that still allows the housing project.

After much back-and-forth discussion, Steve Stone, director of planning, stated that when dealing with the Wallings study, the county is the approving organization. The proposal must be in line with both the Provincial Policy and the Dysart et al Official Plan. "They have to look at traffic impact as part of their due diligence," he said.

The recommendation from county staff is that AECOM would develop a terms of reference and the proponent would do the actual study in cooperation with Dysart and bring it back to county council for final approval. The property at 77 Wallings Road already has a consultant lined up for the study.

Sutton indicated that the terms of reference is to key in on certain points to "ensure we don't get into duelling consultants. [We need] to ensure the study results in the information needed and everyone is on the same page."

After a thorough discussion, county council unanimously passed a motion that "the Haliburton County Committee of the Whole recommends that Haliburton County council direct staff to continue to work with the proponents and landowners of the properties proposed for development in the Wallings Way neighbourhood to ensure the terms of reference for any traffic impact study includes a review of the three options proposed by the Municipality of Dysart et al."

Those three questions include:

Can Wallings Road remain open for incoming traffic only, therefore creating a one-way street and then a further one-way street would be built between Wallings Road and Halbiem Crescent?

Can Wallings Road safely be a no left turn (buses exempt) but still allowing residential neighbourhood traffic to turn right?

Is there another option to make that intersection safe, such as full traffic lights, prompted only if a vehicle is turning left similar to County Road 1 and 21 or at the Independent Grocers?

“

Is there a way to take the best of both reports to determine a path to avoid another study?

— Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin

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County EMS chief offers assistance with emergency scenarios

CHRIS DROST

Staff Reporter

The following are briefs from the Haliburton County council meeting on Dec. 8.

Haliburton County council received an EMS (Emergency Medical Services) update from its chief, Tim Waite, at the Dec. 8 council meeting. He reported on the status of hospital emergency department closures and the impact on EMS. While there had been some concerns about needing to close hospital emergency departments during the overnight hours due to a shortage of nurses, they have been able to find agency nurses to fill the void, at least until late-January. If the Minden emergency department had to be closed, patients at the south end of the county would be taken to Lindsay, while those in the north would be re-routed to Bancroft. According to Wade, the rule is that they have to transport to the nearest hospital.

"What would happen to the response times?" questioned Municipality of Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts. Waite explained that "response time" is not how long it takes to get someone to the hospital. It refers to the time it takes for EMS to get to the person. This being the case, having to transport people farther would not necessarily impact the response times.

"Has there been any discussion with neighbouring hospitals?" asked Township of Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin. Wade replied that he did not know of any. He clarified that the closures would probably be during the night shifts. He is not sure how many nights per week. It all depends on staff availability.

"The potential for disaster is huge," added Devolin.

Hoping for funds to hire

Scott Ovell, the newly hired director of Economic Development and Tourism at Haliburton County, presented his annual budget, which covered tourism marketing (digital, print, broadcast, branding and public relations), economic development marketing (investment and new resident attraction), Hike Haliburton, economic development programming and initiatives, and destination management plan implementation.

Ovell noted that an application in the amount of \$145,000 has been submitted to the Tourism Relief Fund. If approved, it will include \$120,000 for the position of content creator (12 to 18 months), \$15,000 for a targeted Ontario tourism campaign and \$10,000 for website enhancements.

Staff had previously allocated funding from the Safe Restart Program to support an economic development strategy. Staff will report back in early 2022 about any additional initiatives they would recommend using these funds for. Ovell also explained that staff will actively investigate other external funding opportunities throughout the year that could support council approved projects or initiatives. Ovell has already starting meeting with federal and provincial partners.

The Tourism and Economic Development Department operating budget is expected to come in under budget due to programming changes caused by the pandemic, and staffing changes.

Some of the pressures on the 2022 budget are expected to include the fact that both the manager of Economic Development and Tourism will be new. Additionally, it will be important to identify sources of funding beyond the county tax levy. COVID-19 and related issues, continues to potentially impact programming, events

such as Hike Haliburton and local businesses.

The budget includes an increase in wages by \$150,461 for the new director of Economic Development and Tourism. This will be offset by \$100,000 from the Safe Restart Funding. Contracted services will decrease by \$50,000, which will be reallocated to software purchases in 2022. The reallocation for software purchases will also be offset by the Safe Restart Funding.

Following Ovell's presentation, Municipality of Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts stated that "we are all competing with other areas for tourism. What about this credit that the province is offering for accommodations for 2022? Do you have any ideas about that?"

"We will be coming back in early January to show how we can leverage these stays," responded Ovell.

"It looks like an exciting year ahead," said Warden Liz Danielsen.

County draft budget updated

Andrea Bull, director of Corporate Services provided 2022 budget updates. The initial draft of the budget had been presented to council on Nov. 10. Based on council's direction, she was on-hand to present an updated version.

The library board will have a decrease in wages and benefits and is expected to have an increase in revenue. Also, the tax rate increase is expected to be 3.21 per cent, compared to 3.53 per cent in the initial draft. An addition of \$5.1 million in assessment is expected.

"This second draft is less than the real rate of inflation. It has positioned us well. If some day they can unlock the freeze in MPAC and free up that assessment heading into six years of old data, it will take

the burden off future councils. That is how municipalities get their revenue. The revenue should flow from increased value," said Township of Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin.

Warden Liz Danielsen expressed concern that it looks like it may be heading into using eight years of old data. She suggested writing a letter or making a delegation to MPAC. Since it is too late for a delegation at ROMA, council approved staff drafting a letter to be brought to the next council meeting for approval.

Township of Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt stated that she did not want the letter to become one that gets circulated to all the municipalities across the province. "It should be our letter from the County of Haliburton," she said.

CAO Mike Rutter said he did not like to presume what council has not directed but he has included nine months for support in the budget for a community and safety coordinator. The recommendation will come forward when council sees the final budget. "We have made an assumption we don't normally do," he explained.

"If we want to make meaningful and respectful change there needs to be a navigator. It is a good assumption, Mr. CAO," said Moffatt.

"Who will pull this all together?" said Danielsen.

"You made a fair assumption and you know us well," said Devolin.

Municipality of Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts noted that there will be more in-depth discussion about this later but she put forth the question, "Did other areas use a coordinator for their Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan?"

The Steering Committee will present on the afternoon of Dec. 15, with the goal of any changes coming to council for approval in January 2022.

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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Connection is the strength we all need

AS THE WINDS wailed outside the Club Room at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton, Essonville Hank belted out a tune of his own making about life here in Haliburton. He was one of several performers at the Open Stage event where people came to bare their soul and share their musical skills under the bright lights for a considerable crowd ready to have their senses tickled.

There's an unmistakable power in a live event. Organized by the Haliburton County Folk Society, the Open Stage is an opportunity that comes around the second Thursday of each month. The price of admission is by donation, but the value in return is getting to engage with others in way that is close to magical. It's energizing to be immersed in a room of applause, singing and the playing of musical instruments.

It was something I really didn't know I needed until I experienced this past Saturday night, as high winds blew down trees, knocking out power for 50,000 in the Central region, which included Haliburton County. The energy inside never wavered from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m.

From just listening to the music, seeing the musician strum their guitar, beat their drum, tell a story between sets, and elicit a response of laughter or a groan, it's truly something that can only be felt in-person.

When you feel the music in your chest it's something that can't be duplicated nor conveyed with a teleconferencing app such as Zoom. Yes, Zoom has become ubiquitous to life now, whether it's for work meetings, or virtual parties with friends and family, but it's only tolerated and not easy to embrace.

Being in a large group of people isn't exactly high on my list of things to do, but with COVID-19 protocols in place such as mask wearing and proof of vaccination, the Club Room might as well have been Massey Hall.

I'm pretty tired of using Zoom. There's even a term for it, Zoom fatigue.

Stanford researchers report video calls are tiring people out.

Four reasons for Zoom fatigue were cited: excessive amounts of close-up eye contact is highly intense; seeing yourself during video chats constantly in real-time is fatiguing; video chats dramatically reduce our usual mobility; and cognitive load is much higher in video chats.

Possible solutions include not having your own image shown on-screen, reducing the size of the overall grid image, but primarily it's about moving, creating distance from the screen and to take breaks from the screen. The prevailing solution is clear: We need to get away from Zoom and get outside and embrace opportunities for engagement, whether it's an open mic night, or hitting the streets and taking in a conversation (at a safe physical distance) at the Jolly Jog, or seeing carollers in downtown Haliburton during Ladies Night.

With case numbers increasing in the province, we could be heading towards more restrictions to gathering. So, Zoom has its uses and has been a necessity. Earlier this year, Zoom reported they had more than 3.3 trillion annual meeting minutes.

It has enabled people separated by anything from a town to an ocean away to be able to communicate with each other. However, it does not connect in that way that benefits us the most. There is no substitute for in-person engagement when you can see a person's reaction or hear the tone in their voice, expressing sadness or joy. Let's not take the ones we love for granted. Let's do our best for our neighbours, friends and family. See them ... even if outside for minute. It could be the last time ... we never know. Let's reconnect and lift each other up, so we can carry on and move forward with life.



darren lum

Editorial



Evening traffic

by Darren Lum

Adding more

MONIKA WISHED she had never agreed to this. Every year she hauled out her baking paraphernalia, bought fresh flour, over-priced glace cherries and whatever else she needed but didn't have, and tried to make cookies for the holidays. Glossy magazines displayed edible works-of-art cookies that never failed to inspire. How hard could it be? But every year her efforts came up lacking. Sometimes it was the taste that disappointed. Sometimes it was the appearance. Sometimes it was both. And so she'd promise herself to do differently next year. Buy not bake.

However, her son John had talked her into it again. With his young family and a partner who came home from work as exhausted as he, there was no chance either of them would be doing holiday baking. Also their five-year-old was too short to reach the stove so she was no help either.

John always told Monika that she made the best Christmas cookies. When he said this she would look at him as if to say, 'You must be confusing me with that other mother,' but instead smiled serenely as though he spoke the truth. Then one year she realized it wasn't the baking itself that he was so fond of, but rather the memories of baking with her when he was a youngster.

Monika had always believed in self-sufficiency and knowing one's way around a kitchen was part of that, whether male or female, young or old. So, every December she and John would spend the afternoon making tarts, squares and cookies. It truly was a special time together. There'd be Christmas music on the radio, lights sparkling on the tree and eggnog for both of them to sip as they measured and mixed together. The kitchen would fill with warm, fragrant smells that it only had that time of year. Monika would tell John about what Christmases had been like when she was his age and he seemed to enjoy

those strolls down memory lane.

At least until he was 16 when he didn't want to continue. That's when Monika discovered it wasn't nearly as much fun without him. So she scaled back her efforts to just cookies. Shortbread was everyone's favourite and eventually she stuck with that. But being pretty busy herself, and only making shortbread once a year, the recipe always seemed to get lost in the old clippings and scribbles stuck into her ancient cookbook. If you've ever tried to look up a shortbread recipe, you would have quickly found there are as many variations as stars in the sky, each claiming to be the best and easiest one of all.

Finally seizing on one concoction that looked familiar, she gathered the ingredients and began. The butter was too hard, so she tried to soften it in the microwave. Not a good idea. She got busy and the butter ended up too soft and oily. And the amount in the recipe just didn't seem right. However, she pushed on determined to make everyone happy over the festive season. Maybe if she added more flour. But then the dough looked dry. Maybe if she added

more butter. But it was too hard, so she tried softening it again. Back and forth, adding more of this or that until she wasn't really sure what she had anymore.

When they came out of the oven the shortbread looked more like small pancakes than cookies. Red and green cherries in the centre of each one helped, but the taste was, well very buttery. John, however, was very appreciative of her efforts and ate five in the blink of an eye. To Monika, they tasted like slabs of butter. She had suspected she had added too much and the taste confirmed it. But to John, they were perfect. He said eating them reminded him of those Christmases so long ago. At which point, Monika wondered if she had always added too much butter.

Down



sharon lynch

Our road

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points of view

Power to the people

AT 2:53 A.M. last night, my bedside table lamp suddenly lit up. This caused me to wake in a groggy manner. Then harnessing my typical alertness, powers of observation and situational awareness, I muttered the historic words, "Why is the lamp on?"

Jenn then rose, looked at it, and with the roughly same level of lucidity conceded, "Huh, your plan worked."

Jenn was smiling, because that lamp's glorious light alerted us to the fact that power had returned to our house. To be clear, I'm referring to the electrical power, which we had been without for two days. I am not referring to my power of flight, which I possessed only briefly – for several milliseconds at most – when I was a kid shortly after I jumped off the peak of my dad's garage wearing nothing but shorts and an improvised cape. Sadly, that power has never returned – although Jenn often says she sees the residual effects of it.

Yet, while having electricity returned was nice, I was actually more excited because that was the first time that Jenn has actually deemed a plan of mine successful.

As plans go, it wasn't all that sophisticated.

Basically, that night before we went to bed, I turned on the lamp. This caused Jenn to laugh, since we were, as previously mentioned, in the middle of a power outage. I explained that should the lamp light up in the middle of the night, we would be alerted that power – glorious electrical power – had been restored,

which in turn would signal the start of three days of singing, mime, poetry readings, burnt offerings and interpretive dance. You know, the usual stuff.

If you would also like to feel the incredible joy that comes with your spouse admitting you had a plan that worked, feel free to use mine.

But here's a warning. First, my plan, which was successful, should only be implemented during a blackout, otherwise, many questions about alcohol consumption are sure to be asked. Second, you need to have the support and assistance of countless Hydro One workers to ensure that the lamp in question does in fact light up as planned. Also, you need a bedside lamp. This seems like a small detail but, trust me, I have tried bullhorns and sirens and no one who is woken from sound sleep by these is ever going to tell you that your plan worked.

Of all these components, getting the support of our Hydro One crews is the easiest. Heck, you don't even have to ask. These individuals routinely work all hours of the day and night and through all manner of inclement weather to ensure that your lamp – and everyone else's – goes on as planned.

I can't imagine what they do is always fun either. There is, after all, bitter and sometimes dangerous weather to contend with, risky and possibly life-threatening situations to navigate through, and long hours of physically laborious work. And this continues day and night until we are all back to living the modern life we are accustomed to. This will almost certainly happen on at least a couple more occasions this winter. At times when it is not fit for man nor beast to be outside, they will be up on ladders and in elevated buckets, working diligently to ensure we get our creature comforts back.

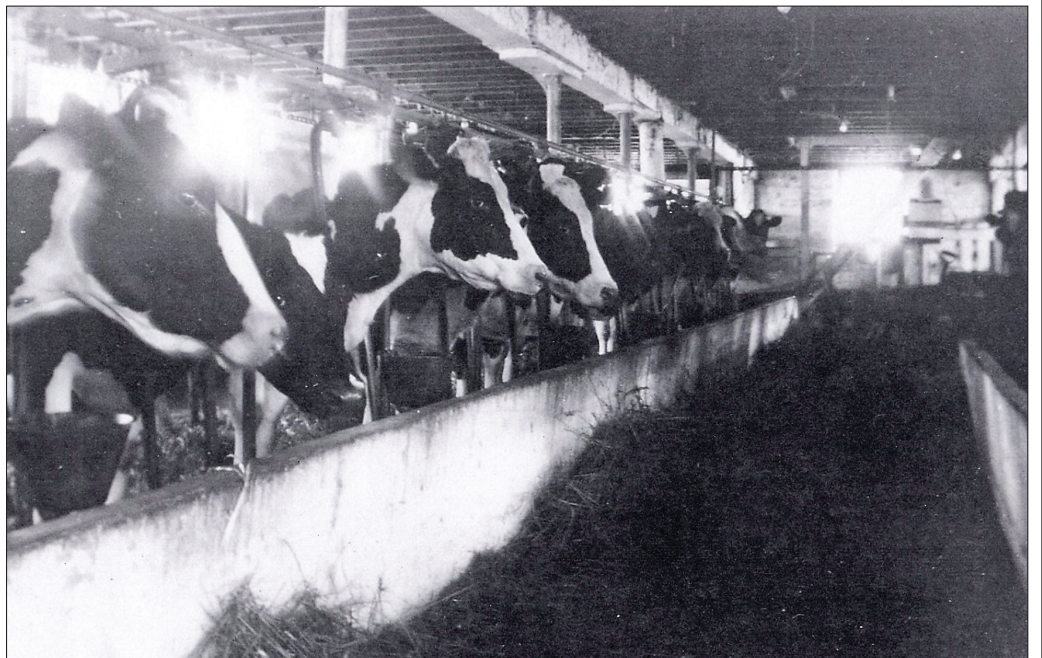
If that is not the definition of heroism, I don't know what is.

I'd like to thank each and every one. I love it when a plan comes together.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

A little Tuesday Moo-tivation brought to you by the cows of Haliburton's Walling's Dairy photographed c. 1950. (The grazing cows were a well-known sight in the village and they won many prizes at the Lindsay Exhibition.) Photo submitted by Kate Butler and information from @HH_Museum on twitter

Highlands East is pulling together, giving Santa help

JOAN BARTON

Special to the Echo

The following is a monthly dispatch from Highlands East.

When the Santa Fund Committee realized that things were too uncertain to hold the annual Party with Santa in Wilberforce this year, they came up with a plan.

So this year, before the schools in Highlands East start the holidays, volunteers will deliver candy and gifts from Santa to the elementary schools in Wilberforce and Cardiff. There will be a gift for every student, thanks to the Santa Fund Committee, the Highlands East Fire Department, the Wilberforce FUNraisers, the staff of Cardiff Elementary School and Wilberforce Elementary School, the Municipality of Highlands East, and of course, Santa Claus. So little brothers and sisters of students don't miss out on the fun, the Santa Fund Committee will also be donating gifts to the Central Food Network (or Wilberforce food bank) for infants and children up to age four.

The members of the Santa Fund Committee have high hopes that we will be able to

return to a Santa Claus Parade and Party with Santa next year. Anyone who would like to help can drop off a donation for the committee at Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce.

Meanwhile, this Saturday, Dec. 18 the Haliburton Highlands OPP will be at Wilberforce Foodland from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., to give CFN (the Central Food Network) and Sobey's a hand with the annual "Fill the Cruiser" Food Drive, supporting our local food banks in Wilberforce and Cardiff. Donors can contribute loose food or food bags prepared by Foodland staff, or cash, which Sobey's will "top up" generously for us, if it is received during the food drive.

The food items we are most in need of are instant and ground coffee, canned proteins like tuna, salmon or flakes of ham, canned vegetables or fruit, and cereal. CFN volunteers are busy this month with Christmas hampers and toys. Last year, 125 holiday hampers were needed. This year they also hope to distribute cooked prepacked Christmas dinners for adults and seniors living alone, and those with limited cooking facilities. I'll be there on Saturday, hope to see you!



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
darren@haliburtonpress.com

Community collaboration

Announcer Rick Lowes speaks to listeners during the Moose FM Radiothon for the food banks (Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank, Central Food Network in Wilberforce, Cardiff Food Bank, and Community Food Centre in Minden) of Haliburton County on Thursday, Dec. 9 in Haliburton. Held from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9 and Friday, Dec. 10, the fundraising effort pulled in \$42,336.
/DARREN LUM Staff



Elementary schools seeing highest number of outbreaks across province

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) district health unit press conference with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking, held virtually Dec. 8.

Provincially, elementary schools continue to be the setting of the highest number of outbreaks of COVID-19, Bocking told media gathered at the press briefing. An outbreak is defined by two or more cases with demonstrated transmission within the school setting. While throughout the local health unit region, outbreaks have been declared because of two cases without further cases being identified, in some districts, schools have reported more than 20 cases during outbreaks. The morning of the press briefing, elementary school outbreaks were at the highest they've been since the beginning of the pandemic, with 239 outbreaks ongoing.

"I think we've been quite fortunate here in HKPR [region] to have not had quite the same amount of activity but we are starting to see increased activity throughout our school base population," said Bocking.

To date in this school year, the HKPRD health unit has confirmed 47 cases of COVID-19, 20 of those in the past 14 days, with 14 classes closed.

High number of high-risk contacts due to active school cases

Since the beginning of the pandemic, 2,612 COVID-19 cases have been identified in the health unit's region. Last Wednesday at the time of the press meeting, there were 40 active cases – two in Haliburton County, 27 in City of Kawartha Lakes and 11 in Northumberland County. Connected to those cases, there were 335 high-risk contacts.

"That number of high-risk contacts is higher than previous briefings and that's directly related to the number of contacts identified through school cases, so the entire class or an entire class cohort becomes identified as a high-risk contact and that really pushes our overall numbers of high-risk contacts up," said Bocking.

The seven-day overall incidence rate continued to "creep up," she said, with 22 cases per 100,000 people, a number that has more than doubled in the past two weeks and which Bocking said will continue to rise.

"To put this in perspective, there are some health unit jurisdictions right now that have incidence rates higher than 200 cases per 100,000, if we look to northern Ontario, Timiskaming region, Algoma region, are experiencing significant surges in COVID-19 activity and quite high incidence rates associated with that."

HKPR region's test positivity is at 2.2 per cent, which is also lower than in other regions, but which Bocking said is increasing.

"The amount of testing that's taken place is really remaining the same, and across HKPR is somewhat actu-

ally less than other regions in the province, but the number of cases is continuing to increase."

Four outbreaks in the region were ongoing during last week's media briefing, those being the local Haliburton school bus cohort outbreak, the J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School outbreak, patient and visitor cases at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, and two cases at a childcare facility in Lindsay. (See COVID graphic on page 3 for most updated information).

Most cases now in the youngest age group

Of the 75 cases identified across the health unit's region in the past two weeks, 18.7 per cent were identified in the zero to nine-year-old age group. Sixteen per cent of cases were confirmed in those 30 to 39, and also 16 per cent in those aged 60 to 69. The majority of cases in the past 14 days – 32 per cent – have been household contacts, with one individual exposed, and then spread within the household. Twenty per cent of cases have had no known source of exposure and 16 per cent are related to close contact.

Of those confirming infection – 453 cases have been identified since July 1 – 59 per cent have been unvaccinated, 4.4 per cent have had one dose but 14 days haven't passed, 11 per cent are partially protected (have had a first dose and 14 days has passed or have had two doses but 14 days hasn't passed) and 25.4 per cent are fully protected.

Vaccination update

As of Monday, Dec. 6, 87.2 per cent of people 12 and older in the HKPR region had received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, while 84.8 per cent have received two doses.

The province recently celebrated the milestone of 90 per cent vaccination, said Bocking, but noted numbers in our local health unit region tend to be about one to two per cent lower than the provincial average. She recommended people continue seeking out vaccine, especially in light of rising case numbers and a new variant.

Approximately 13 per cent of kids aged five to 11 have received their first dose throughout the region, just under 1,500 kids.

"I think rollout has been quite positive and clinics have been well-attended, and lots of relatively happy kids – no one's happy to get a needle in the arm – but quite supportive of vaccination overall," said Bocking of the clinics.

A booster shot, or third dose of vaccine, will be available to those 50 and older as of Dec. 13, and will open up to those 18 and older at the beginning of January.

Children can certainly get the virus just as easily as anyone else, they're less likely to become sick with it, and certainly much less likely to become sick enough to need to be admitted to hospital, but they can certainly get the virus to the same degree as anyone else and also have the ability to spread it onwards the same as anyone else.

Reiterating holiday recommendations

While Bocking had shared her guidance on holiday gatherings in the previous week's media briefing, she did so again at the most recent session to stress the message:

"We need to be cautious with our gatherings and our enthusiasm for returning to normal over the holiday season," she said. "Given the current trend in increasing cases, I think we will continue to see an increase across HKPRD health unit jurisdiction and now is not the time to be hosting large holiday parties with people from across different households, across different work places. Now is the time to be having small gatherings, to be engaging in smart planning of the gatherings, and also using safe practices so that we're being ... small, smart and safe is our key reminder messages here."

Bocking said those planning a small gathering should "be smart about it," and "look at the space that you have available."

"Consider whether or not you'll be asking individuals that are fully vaccinated to be participating, or unvaccinated individuals. Engage in all of the public health measures we know do work to help prevent the spread of COVID-19: masking, distancing if you're not able to mask well, washing hands frequently, cleaning high touch surfaces, but really the biggest practice that contributes to the spread of COVID-19, especially at this time of year, is large gatherings indoors of people from multiple households that will be in close proximity, talking lots, perhaps singing, but those venues are really the places where we see COVID spread fuel. So I think again, echoing the same messages, to really be looking at your schedules for the holidays, continuing with small gatherings, smart planning for them and safe practices."

Looking ahead at possible public health measures

"We're not at that point yet," said Bocking when asked if the public health unit might add further restrictions to help stall the rising case numbers. "We could reach that point. Definitely restrictions that limit the potential for people to be coming into contact with each other, so limit capacity limits or gatherings are a key tool in our COVID-19 toolbox to further limit cases that are increasing. There's not a magic number at what point we say we need these measures to be in place."

While the current local incidence rate of cases is 22 per 100,000, Bocking said "certainly if we're getting up to 60s, 70s, 80s, that's quite high, significant challenges at a health unit level, and we would be considering different measures that will help to limit gatherings."

"I think if people take some of our messaging to our heart and limit their gatherings then we can potentially curb this current increase in cases. If the current trajectory continues to increase and starts to match that of other health units then I think we likely will move to having some further restrictions in place."

Skate with the pack this New Year's Day

Huskies welcome public for free skate at A.J. LaRue

DARREN LUM

Editor

Get ready, Haliburton: the Haliburton County Huskies are coming to the A.J. LaRue Arena for New Year's Day.

During the Municipality of Dysart et al's committee of the whole meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 7 via YouTube, Mayor Andrea Roberts announced the township's invitation was accepted by the Ontario Junior Hockey League's (OJHL) Huskies, who are expected to hold a team practice, followed by two public skate sessions.

Roberts, who is one of the team's billet families, providing accommodations to a player, said she asked the Huskies coach Ryan Ramsay about coming to the A.J. LaRue Arena.

"How can we get you to come to Haliburton? Come to our arena and do something?" she said. "I was trying to do something before Christmas, but their schedule's a little crazy and then he said, 'What about New Year's

Day?'"

The mayor said even though it's a statutory holiday town staff are required to come to the arena for three hours, anyway, so it worked out.

The cost of the event, which is in lieu of the annual New Year's Eve skating party, is being covered by the township through the community event budget.

Although the attendance of the practice and the public skate is free, the team is accepting donations for the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank.

The Huskies will have a team practice from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and then welcome the public to skate with them for two sessions. The first will start at 3:15 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. for ice flooding. The second will be at 4:15 p.m. and end at 5 p.m.

Since they were relocated from Whitby by proud Haliburtonian and Huskies alumnus Paul Wilson, the Huskies have been drawing hundreds to every home game. MPP Laurie Scott even spoke about the success of the team, including local players Joe Boice and Ryan Hall at the provincial legislature in Queen's Park last week. As of Dec. 10, the Huskies are second in the OJHL's east division and have been a top-five team in defence in terms of goals allowed in the league. They also feature

“

I was trying to do something before Christmas ... and then he said, 'What about New Year's Day?'

— Mayor Andrea Roberts

the league's top goal scorer, Oliver Tarr (21 goals), as of Dec. 10.

Pre-register for the event by going to the Municipality of Dysart's website: www.dysartetal.ca. Registration opens on Dec. 20. COVID-19 protocols will be enforced such as proof of double-vaccination (for those 12 and older), mask wearing, physical distancing in the lobby area, and an on-ice capacity of 35 people from the public at a time.

Northlands Faith Church gives back

NICK BERNARD

Staff Reporter

For Pastor Bev Hicks' congregation at the Northlands Faith Church, the Christmas season begins some time in September.

"People have been giving in to what we call 'Christmas Blessings'," explained Hicks. Northlands Faith Church has been doing Christmas Blessings for five years, through a partnership with Point in Time, whose own mission involves helping youth in the community.

Point in Time provides Northlands Faith Church with gift lists for certain families who may be struggling, with their details remaining confidential.

"What they do is they give us sizes, the types of gifts [families] want, and so forth, the number, how big the family is," Hicks explained. "So we go out and we buy those gifts, and we buy food for them, enough so they can have Christmas dinner."

He says, often the church has enough resources that the food the families receive can last a full week.

On Dec. 16, Northlands Faith Church will be giving this year's Christmas Blessings to Point in Time at the Haliburton Foodland parking lot. Foodland owner Brad Park will bring out the food donations, and Point in Time will distribute the gifts to the families from there.

Each year, Northlands Faith Church helps a small handful of families. Hicks says that the Christmas Blessings is so that the members of the congregation can give back to the community, while getting back the satisfaction of being able to say they helped.

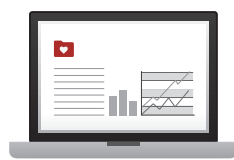
"In order to have your needs met, giving is one way of doing it. 'Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over,'" said Hicks, quoting Luke 6:38. "So this is the one reason why our people give."

You can find Northlands Faith Church on Facebook, or by visiting their website at www.northlandfaithchurch.ca. Northlands Faith Church is located three kilometres north of Haliburton at 13321 Highway 118 West.

EPIC LAUNCH

On December 3, 2021 Haliburton Highlands Health Services and our partner hospitals across the region will launch a new clinical information system called Epic.

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Close to \$700,000 is coming to Haliburton County in 2022

The Ontario government is providing \$7,264,988 to help local municipalities build and repair critical infrastructure in the riding of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. This investment is part of our government's plan to build Ontario by supporting critical infrastructure projects that generate local economic growth and create new jobs.

"Our government has heard from small, rural and northern municipalities across the province on the need for adjustments to the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) formula and that's why we are taking action," said Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. "Municipalities in HKLB will greatly benefit from this significant increase in funding to help get shovels in the ground sooner on important local infrastructure projects that help strengthen our communities and support long-term economic recovery."

Today's announcement is part of the government's additional \$1 billion investment to help build and repair roads, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure in small, rural and northern communities. The multi-year funding is being delivered through the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and will bring the government's total investment to nearly \$2 billion over the next five years.

"Our small, rural and northern communities will be at the forefront of our efforts to build Ontario for the future," said Premier Doug Ford. "With this investment, we are saying 'yes' to helping these communities build and repair the vital infrastructure they need to keep their communities working for decades to come."

Funding allocations will be based on a formula that

recognizes the different needs and economic conditions of communities across the province. The new formula will include an increased funding minimum of \$100,000 for all communities per year, up from \$50,000 over previous years.

"Communities are the heartbeat of this province and we know they are facing unique infrastructure needs and challenges, especially as we navigate through the pandemic," said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. "Our government has been with them every step of the way. When we were told more funding supports were needed, we listened and acted in a meaningful way by providing the largest OCIF increase since the start of the program. By doing so, we're providing stability and predictability to small, rural and northern communities to repair, upgrade, and modernize their critical infrastructure so that they are safer, healthier, and more reliable for all."

The province's investment in OCIF is part of the 2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Build Ontario. The plan lays out how the government will build Ontario's future with shovels in the ground for highways, hospitals, long-term care, housing, and high-speed internet. To ensure all families, workers and businesses in the province have a better and brighter future, our government's planned infrastructure investments over the next decade total more than \$148 billion.

The municipal funding worked out with Haliburton County receiving \$283,453 in 2021 and \$630,334 in 2022. By municipality, Highlands East received \$50,000 in 2021 and \$100,000 in 2022; the Township of Algonquin Highlands \$50,000 in 2021 and \$100,000 in 2022; the Town-

ship of Dysart et al \$159,429 in 2021 and \$364,433 in 2022; and the Township of Minden Hills \$102,081 in 2021 and \$226,985 in 2021.

Quick facts

- The OCIF supports local infrastructure projects for communities with populations under 100,000, along with all rural and northern communities.
- For 2021, approximately \$200 million in funding was allocated to 424 small, rural and northern communities. Municipalities may accumulate their funding for up to five years to address larger infrastructure projects.
- Ontario also provides funding to communities through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), a \$30-billion, 10-year infrastructure program cost-shared between federal, provincial and municipal governments, and other partners.
- Ontario's share per project will be up to \$10.2 billion spread across five streams: Rural and Northern, Transit Infrastructure, Community, Culture and Recreation, Green and COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure.
- The 2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review: Build Ontario is the government's seventh financial update since the pandemic began, highlighting the government's commitment to providing regular updates on Ontario's finances, even during this uncertain economic period. It is part of the government's plan for recovery driven by economic growth

Submitted by Laurie Scott's office



String strong

Haliburton's Brian Sachs sings during the Open Stage event at the Royal Canadian Legion on Saturday, Dec. 11 in Haliburton. Organized by the Haliburton County Folk Society, the open mic night, which is open to singers, storytellers and poets, is held every second Saturday at 8 p.m. See the Society's website (www.haliburtonfolk.com) for more information about registration and future events. When held at the Legion entrance is by the side door to the lower level's Club Room. Admission is by donation and COVID protocols are in place./DARREN LUM Staff



The Simply Befuddled's band members Wendy Evenden-Loney, from left, Ken Loney, Beth Johns, Wendy Wood, Norris Turner and Karen Armstrong perform during the Open Stage event.

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Tom Prentice & Sons Trucking has provided snow removal services for approximately 30 years. Prentice said plowing businesses are stretched as a result of insurance cost increases. /Photo submitted



Residents left scrambling for snow plow operators

Rising insurance and operating costs are taking snow plows off the roads

STEVE GALEA

Special to the Echo

Slip-and-fall lawsuits in Toronto and other urban areas are not just costly to the businesses and property owners directly involved. They are also having an indirect effect on snow plow operators in Haliburton County and the rest of Ontario, in terms of increased insurance premiums and, in some cases, loss of coverage.

In fact, significant rate increases, combined with rising operating costs, have caused some long-time snow plow operators to shut down operations, leaving customers scrambling to find businesses willing to take on more work.

Jim Love, of Miner's Bay, experienced the fallout from the insurance crisis plaguing the plowing business in mid-October, when the snow plow operator he had contracted for many years told him that he would be closing his business this year.

"He told me he couldn't afford to plow this year. I asked why and he said, 'the insurance is killing me' and he quoted an insane number. He tried to find someone else to take over the business and he couldn't. This was more than just a financial thing. He didn't want to let me and other customers down."

Having snow removal services is critical to him, as it is to many who live in Haliburton County. Love, who lives a full kilometre from the nearest plowed road, said it has never been easy to get that service.

"It's hard work. These people get up early and work long days. Not a lot of people want to do this."

Luckily, he found a new plow operator relatively quickly, but prior to that considered purchasing his own plow and truck.

"We're not rich but we have the means to do this ... And I started thinking what about all those poor people who can't afford this? What will they do?"

Tom Prentice of Tom Prentice & Sons Trucking has provided snow removal services for approximately 30 years. He says it is the mainstay of his business in winter and is what allows the company to keep their employees working year-round.

His company plows more than 100 properties each day, which include businesses around Minden, residences, and on Thursdays and Fridays, cottages and cottage access roads so their owners can visit their properties on the weekends.

"Last year my insurance company forewarned us that this was coming," he said. "There were increases last year. It will be increasing again this year."

Right about that same time, Tony DiGiovanni, execu-

tive director of Landscape Ontario, an organization that also advocates for snow and ice removal trades, declared, "We are in the midst of an insurance crisis."

At that time, DiGiovanni reported receiving calls from concerned business owners across the province who could no longer get insurance for their snow and ice removal operations. Others reported their insurance rates had doubled or tripled, while deductibles also increased.

"The quantity of lawsuits, probably encouraged by relentless advertisements, has resulted in many insurance companies pulling out of providing winter service coverage," DiGiovanni said at the time. "With no coverage, there will be no service. This is an extremely serious issue that will affect every member of the public."

"I recently heard an insurance spokesperson on a radio show say that even if a lawsuit wasn't successful, for every dollar the insurance company charged us, they needed to pay \$1.14 in legal costs," said Prentice. "So they adjusted their rates accordingly."

He said his company's insurance increased by a significant amount for the five plows they run. Asked if these costs will be passed on to customers, he replied, "It still has to be worked out. We did not entirely recoup costs last year. The number of snow plow times were down."

Prentice said that the plowing business can be difficult to plan for in the best of times.

"It is hard to predict how any winter will go," he said. "You can't say for certain how many visits your plows will have to make. I can see why some guys threw in the towel."

At press time, he knows of three operators that have stopped plowing services. He says plowing businesses are already stretched and notes that the loss of these services will mean customers will have an even harder time finding people to clear driveways and do snow removal.

"We're turning down a lot of plowing jobs," he said. "Our drivers can only legally work 13-hour days."

He says the people who will be affected most by the loss of plow operators will be those who have come here during the pandemic who have not yet established a relationship with a snow removal and plowing service, as well as those customers who have recently lost their plow operators and are currently looking for a new one.

Snow plow and snow removal services are often dragged into slip-and-fall lawsuits regardless of if they were even there at the time of the incident.

Prior to last January, people were permitted to enact a slip-and-fall lawsuit for up to two years after the incident. This left a wide window open for lawsuits that were, on occasion, regarding incidents that were previously unknown by the parties being sued or whose details were largely forgotten by those targeted. Law-

“

The quantity of lawsuits ... has resulted in many insurance companies pulling out of providing winter service coverage.

— Tony DiGiovanni, Director of Landscape Ontario

suits with these lengthy time lags also made it difficult for snow plow operators to defend themselves in court.

Last January, however, Bill 118 was passed. That legislation made changes to Ontario's *Occupiers' Liability Act* that barred any action for personal injury damages caused by snow or ice conditions against an occupier or independent contractor employed to remove snow or ice from the premises when the injury occurred, to within 60 days, with some exceptions.

Landscape Ontario applauded the bill and noted in a press release, "The changes will unquestionably result in a reduced number of claims and insurance payouts. They will also hopefully, over time, result in reduced premiums for contractors."

Whether that happens still remains to be seen.

Global factors are also influencing insurance rates. In 2019 and 2020 and, insurance claims, much related to climate change, rose globally to \$160 billion dollars, which is equal to the cumulative total in the previous six years. These costs have also trickled down to consumers.

Prentice would like to see the law changed so that people involved in slip-and-fall incidents should have to report the incident immediately, if they want to proceed with a lawsuit. He feels this would allow all parties involved to have better recollection of the conditions and services rendered that day and perhaps reduce frivolous lawsuits.

In the meantime, depending on snowfall, this could be a winter in which more driveways and private roads remain snow covered for longer. Aside from preventing people from going to work, visiting their seasonal residences or shopping, it could also present challenges to emergency services, fuel delivery and other essential services.

Love has written to MPP Laurie Scott (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock) to voice his concern.

He said, "I'm ticked. Plowing is not an option. It is a necessity."

In The Spirit Of Giving This Christmas

Purchase tickets for a draw for Christmas Dinner the money raised will be donated to the Haliburton Food Bank.

We're holding a draw for 5 turkeys from McFaddens Meat Market, each with a \$50 gift card to Haliburton Foodland for the fixings.

To enter the draw visit Haliburton or Minden Century 21 office or enter online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/century-21s-holiday-fundraiser/>

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Christmas carols provides soundtrack to Ladies Night

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

About a dozen choristers sang around different locations on Highland Street and Maple Avenue of Halibur-

ton under the direction of Haliburton resident, Bill Gliddon. Some were from St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church and some from St. George's Anglican Church. The request had come from Angelica Ingram of the BIA to sing outside for Ladies Night. After gathering in St George's parking lot to start the night, we regaled the McClure's with *Deck the Halls* and the traditional *Happy Birthday* since it was Father Ken's birthday, a good start for the carols that followed.

Beginning at Shoppers Drug Mart, we continued on to Haliburton Foodland and across to the village's 38-foot Christmas tree, which was donated by Andy Salvatori, then finished at the SIRCH Bistro where we were welcomed with hot cider and a good look at the artistry displayed by hand-crafters from the area. The few participants from West Guilford included husband Miles and wife Marina Maughan and myself.

Several Christmas customs continue despite COVID restrictions: cards sent and received, decorations colourful and cheery; visitors calling, and special

delectable goodies made and offered when people come in over the season. My advent wreath is lit for HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE, week by week and of course the central candle on Christmas day. One longed for treat we missed is the colourful, clever Julie Barban's production of the ballet, the Nutcracker.

Please inform me of any personal, seasonal family occasions which might be of interest to the community. Till then, good wishes, happy travelling, safety and health for a blessed Christmas and happiness in the New Year.

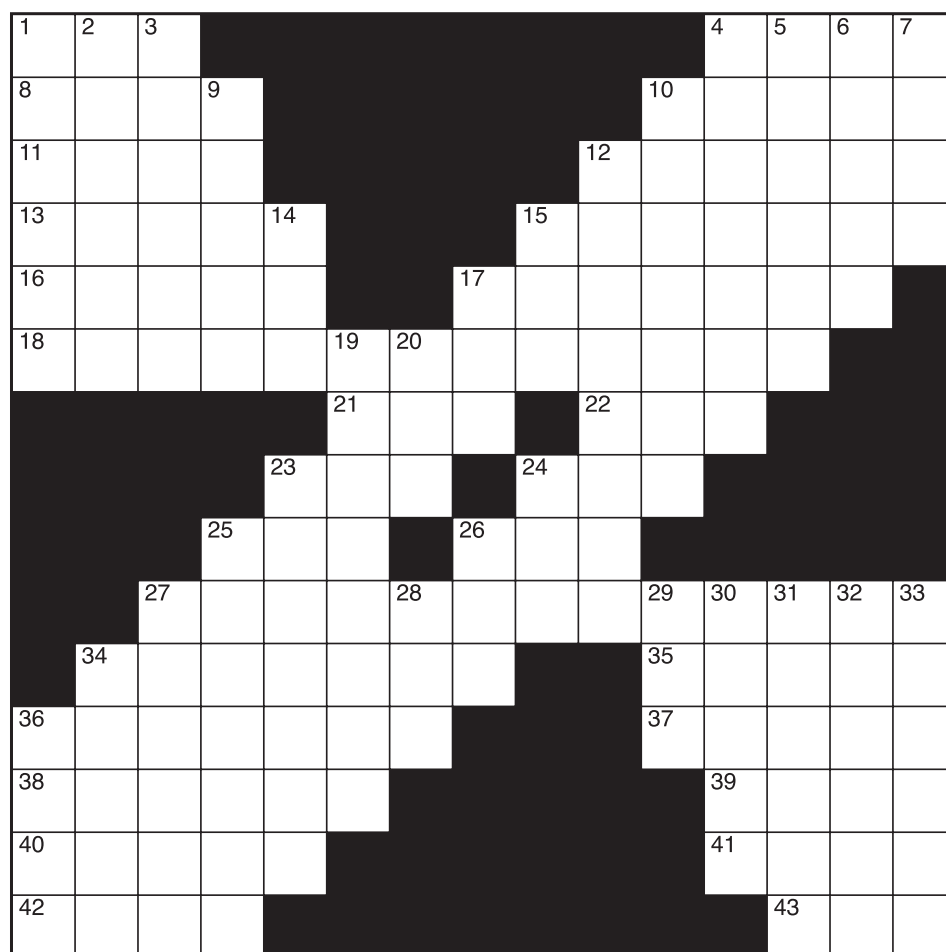
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CLUES ACROSS

1. You fry food in it
4. Pesky insect
8. Gets older
10. ___ Dern, actress
11. Uncouth man
12. One who sulks
13. Napoleon's king of Naples
15. One who swims underwater
16. Make amends
17. Expressions
18. Document format
21. What a beaver makes
22. Limb
23. Photograph
24. Golf score
25. Moroccan mountain range
26. Wrinkled dog breed: Shar ___
27. 20th century sex symbol
34. Remedy for all diseases

CLUES DOWN

1. Town in central Brazil
2. Large burrowing rodent
3. Nerve cell
4. Estimating
5. Bakers use it
6. Regions
7. Small lake
9. Environmentalist nun
10. More kookie
12. Announce officially
14. Israeli city ___ Aviv

CLUES ACROSS

15. Title given to friar
17. Inches per minute (abbr.)
19. Buildings
20. Pouch
23. They steal on the high seas
24. It's mightier than the sword
25. Going off on a tangent
26. Monetary unit
27. Young woman
28. Type of bulb
29. Type of drug (abbr.)
30. City opposite Dus seldorf
31. Animal disease
32. Martini necessities
33. Elude
34. La ___: Buenos Aires capital
36. An oft-enduring symbol

Answers on page 18

There is still time to win

CHRISTMAS IS fast approaching and there are only 10 shopping days left to check off everyone on your list.

If you're like me you are probably shocked at just how quickly the month of December has gone by, but are looking forward to the moment where you can slow down and take in all the festivities.

There was no slowing down last Thursday at Ladies Shopping Night in Haliburton! Hundreds of shoppers took to the village to support our downtown stores and take advantage of some great deals and chances to win prizes. On behalf of the BIA I want to thank everyone who supported this event, whether it was through shopping or participating. It was great to see so many smiling faces on Highland Street. A special thank you to Bill Gliddon for leading our carollers and bringing some beautiful songs and harmonies to our event. It sure put a smile on people's faces to hear the classic holiday songs while they shopped.

The event saw the return of the popular passport program, where shoppers simply had to visit five participating businesses for their chance to win a \$100 gift card to any BIA business of their choice. Congratulations to our winners: Liz Mahaffy, June Krisko, Lori Roberts, M. Moore and Kori Consack.

If you didn't win at Ladies Shopping

Night there is good news, you still have a chance to win. Our Buy In And Win promotion is still taking place and runs until Dec. 23. Continue to shop locally and you can enter a ballot for your chance to win \$1,500 in gift cards to any BIA business of your choice. And the best part is, the more you shop the more chances you have to win! On Dec. 24 the winner will be drawn live on-air at noon on the Moose FM radio station.

For a full list of contest rules, visit the BIA's Facebook page. Remember, the more you shop the more opportunities you have to win!

If you haven't already noticed, our town Christmas tree is standing beautifully in front of the Village Barn on Highland Street. Thank you to those who have already added an ornament to it. There is still plenty of space for more decorations so we are reminding everyone to add some sparkle to our tree. Simply bring your own ornament or decoration

and hang it for all to see. The tree will be up until the beginning of the New Year, at which point we ask everyone to remove their ornaments or decorations, as they will not be returned to you.

We wish everyone a wonderful and safe holiday season and a happy New Year! Until next month stay safe, stay healthy and stay merry.

BIA in



angelica
ingram

The Village



The EarlyON Child & Family Centre is currently seeking Board Members to serve on the Board of Directors.

We are a non-profit agency that is funded by the Ministry of Education to offer programs for children 0-6 years and their parents, grandparents and caregivers in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County.

- Volunteer commitment of 2 - 4 hours per month
- Presently, virtual meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month - starting at 5:30 p.m.

If interested please contact us
P: 705-324-7900 E: admin@oeyc.ca
www.oeyc.ca

EarlyON
Child and Family Centre



Haiden Bird rushes the puck.



Storm surge

Highland Storm U15 player Nathan Guild rushes the puck against South Muskoka defenders at the A.J. LaRue Arena on Friday night, Dec. 12 in Haliburton. The Storm won 5-2. Goals were scored by Guild (two), Bird (two), Jacob Davis and assists were by Layne Robinson, Carson Conlin and Davis. /DARREN LUM Staff



Jacob Lloyd shields the puck from a South Muskoka forechecker.

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Marg Cox, Executive Director
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Contest open to all legal residents of Ontario. Adult prize winner(s) must be 19 years of age or older. Grand prize winner receives a Total of \$1500.00 (One thousand Five hundred dollars) in gift certificate from any Haliburton B.I.A member. Gift Certificate(s) can be one in the full amount of \$1500, or multiple denominations of no less than \$100. The Grand prize total is not to exceed \$1500. Ballots must be received by authorized Haliburton BIA merchant. *Prize must be accepted as awarded and may not be substituted or converted to cash.*

Nordic ski racing returns to the Hawks

DARREN LUM

Editor

They're back.

The Red Hawks Nordic ski team is making a comeback after a six year absence and couldn't come at a more opportune time for its coaches and athletes.

Co-coach Mike Rieger appreciates this opportunity to bring back the program and hopes it could mark the start of a return.

"Hopefully, we can manage to make it work [so] that skiing can come back and have good interest and the other winter sports can kind of get back to what they were before COVID as well," he said.

This team has been more than a foundation for competitive success with multiple all-provincial berths during its existence, but it has also encouraged a love for Nordic skiing and a healthy active lifestyle.

"In high school there is a lot of sports [where the] peak of their sports career is going to be what they do in high school and it's hard to carry on, if you think about a sport like basketball ... it doesn't [even] run all year, whereas something like skiing you can do that for the rest of your life whenever you want. There's so much more accessibility that comes [with] a sport like that than some of the more traditional team-oriented high school sports," he said.

Rieger said he started Nordic skiing as a young boy and then stopped when he

was in his teens. Although up until a few years ago he didn't ski for several years, he embraced the opportunity to ski the dozens of kilometres of groomed trails, which are part of the Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trail and Ski Club Association. It has rekindled his love of the winter endurance sport.

With the pandemic and associated uncertainty of what is allowed, Nordic skiing is one of a few competitive options available to Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students this year.

Bringing this program back is important, Rieger said.

"It just seems like a good opportunity to be able to introduce a sport to more students and I know there's sort of a lot of curiosity about how sports are going to reshift through COVID and beyond. And skiing just seemed like a great chance to be able to at least bring a program [back] that's got a strong history and Haliburton certainly has a strong cross-country skiing community," he said.

The last time there was a team was in the 2015/2016 season when the team was coached by Jennifer Paton, which included Nordic ski standouts Brynn Meyers and Jessica Bishop. Both earned all-provincial, OFSAA (Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations) championship berths.

He adds the past few years has seen a reduction in Nordic ski team members because of how strong the other sports teams were in the winter, whether it was girls' volleyball or boys' basketball.

Coaching isn't new for Rieger, who

was part of the Red Hawks basketball program for eight years prior to the pandemic in 2019. Coaching Nordic ski racing is new to him though. He is coaching the team with Karen Gervais, who was the school's cross country coach this past autumn.

Close to three weeks ago, there was a meeting with coaches from all of the six schools based in Kawartha (HHSS, Lakefield College, Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute, Crestwood Secondary School, St. Peter Catholic Secondary School and Thomas Aquinas Secondary School).

Rieger said there was a collaborative atmosphere at the meeting among the coaches, who all recognize the different levels of skill levels and racing experiences among the high school skiers.

"There's some kids that are racing club [level of competition]. There's some kids that are quite athletic that maybe don't race club that are going to race on school teams. There's a lot of kids that it's brand new for them," he said. "So they tried to set up a couple of meets where the coaches from all the schools help out and they take some groups of kids and do a bit of teaching and then hold a race at the end."

Thus far, there are nine students on the HHSS Nordic team preparing for the season with dry land training after school. They will be representing the red and white skiing in the junior girls and senior boys categories.

Rieger said the expectation is to hold two invitational competitions in January, which will be followed by the COSSA

“

It just seems like a good opportunity to be able to introduce a sport to more students ...

— Coach Mike Rieger

(Central Ontario Secondary School Associations) championship where competitors will compete for an opportunity to earn a berth to the OFSAA championship.

The first one, which will be organized as an intro-to-racing format for racers and coaches, will be hosted at the Kawartha Nordic Ski Club, which is also the home venue for Lakefield College. The second one could be held at Glebe Park in Haliburton a week later and will focus on ascending and descending techniques, utilizing the predominant challenges of the hilly terrain there.

Rieger said for Haliburton to host a race will be based on COVID-19 protocols and related transportation options for teams from schools based in Peterborough. Dates and locations remain open to change.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Thank you for your continued patronage and support.

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"Over the last year, we've been home with no shows [to attend], so we started offering more classes," said Jennifer Wanless-Craig, artist and creator of the experience, and founder of The Hot Shop by Artech Studios. Wanless-Craig said the idea for a holiday course started many years ago, when they used to have groups of friends over to make scotch glasses before Christmas, then they would all get together over New Year's Eve to ring in the new year.

Since then, the experience has evolved into something that's family friendly, and with a magical Christmas spin. Wanless-Craig provides hot apple cider, tea, or coffee along with a sweet treat to ring in the holidays with participants. This experience is catered to everyone six and up.

"Our goal is to provide a service that helps families make memories together," said Wanless-Craig. They are offering this experience regularly leading up to Christmas, including sessions over the weekends, through the week, and even most evenings.

"We want to make it accessible, and readily available for anyone who wants to join," said Wanless-Craig.

Artech Studios offers regular programs



Terry Craig with daughter Anabelle Craig twist a glass ball into a holiday ornament. The ornament-making classes with Artech Studios are designed for ages six and older, and includes instruction for glassblowing, making your own ornament, and a sweet treat. Photo submitted by Jennifer Wanless-Craig.

year-round, and partners with local experiential tourism company, Yours Outdoors to provide half-day, full-day, and multi-day glass blowing packages. Wanless-Craig, along with husband Terry Craig and daughter Anabelle teach out of their studio in Tory Hill. The Hot Shop features handmade glassware, upcycled glasses, glass tumblers, magnets, coast-

ers, and games, as well as homemade candles and honey from their resident beehives. They are always looking at creating new community partnerships, and developing experiences that are unique, educational, memorable, and above all, fun.

The Hot Shop will be closing its doors in the New Year until early spring to ded-

icate some time to develop new experiences, plan a big year ahead, and spend quality time with family. If blowing glass was on your 2021 bucket list, now is the time to do it. You can register for sessions through Yours Outdoors by calling 705-457-3436 or emailing info@yoursoutdoors.ca.



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I dream of a society with less stigma towards mental health and more comfortable access for people to reach out in times of need. I dream of a society where mental health can be recognized as no different than your need to see a doctor for blood pressure or a sore knee. And while medical staff increasingly recognize the centrality of mental health in the health of their patients, they have not always applied this same thinking when considering their own health. This double standard needs to change; and we need your help to do so.

The past two years have brought uncertainty, and stressful work circumstances to many careers. Those working in health care, like many frontline workers, have been anything but immune to the system stress that relates to this pandemic. The increased work goes beyond COVID cases and COVID pandemic management, to how the pandemic has affected the health of our populations and the way we provide care to keep the public safe. Like many careers, these increased workloads come at a time when many health care workers also have pandemic related increased commitments at home. It would not be surprising to imagine that many may need time to return to a place of their own health.

Historically, no health care system has wanted to share their vulnerabilities with the public. In some ways, it has felt like a duty not to. However, I believe we no longer need to live in our history. Creating safe spaces for sharing vulnerability is the very foundation of patient care and I believe that it should also form the foundation of care for our health care providers. The move to more transparency can hopefully offer a helpful shift for us all. A shift that is in fact driven by nothing but the ongoing commitment to providing optimal patient care. It is in your best interest to know the pulse of your health care system. With health care system transparency comes the opportunity for community support to help when systems are suffering.

I hope for a shift in culture to view those who share vulnerabilities as showing great strength and resilience by stepping forward. When circumstances are challenging - like continued staffing shortages - I invite us all to get curious as to why and to ask ourselves in what ways we can help. Out of these challenges may come opportunity. One such opportunity is to remove some historic barriers between health care systems and the communities they serve. We are better with you and will be better for you when we accept and model our own shared humanity.

Let's unite in a shared goal of improving access for all health concerns, in all people, by decreasing stigma associated with sharing vulnerabilities. Let's be human together and stronger for it! This is the very spirit of what the world of medicine needs to offer you and together we can help this become nothing but an improved future in health care!

Short-term help to your system

- Please be respectful and kind to all our staff. We would be lost without them.
- Please get your COVID vaccine. Five to 11 year Old vaccines are now approved and protecting our children too will be a big step towards an improved future.
- Follow public health recommendations.
- Stay home when unwell and get tested for COVID when you have symptoms.
- Please only use the emergency room for emergencies.
- Please use your family doctor for non-emergent health care needs. If you do not have a family doctor, please explore one of the many virtual OHIP covered walk-in clinic options now available.

- Write to your local MPP and MP about the need for rural communities health care funding structures to be adjusted to better capture our new population demographics and seasonal surges. Recruitment efforts and successes will be enhanced as funding improves!

- Join our recruitment efforts! Tell your friends and family in health care about our amazing community and invite them to consider joining our well recognized and dedicated health care teams.
- Support our new county recruiter in exploring and promoting a local health care system that sustains our teams during these difficult times and attracts new graduates! Let's work together to design a system that prioritizes health care wellness. Together we can create a community that becomes a leader in this necessary shift in medicine. A shift that evidence suggests will only result in a healthier community!

Notice of Procedural By-Law Amendments

As per Policy No. 24 – Public Notice Policy, notice is hereby being provided that Dysart et al Council, at their regular meeting to be held on January 25, 2022, will be amending the Procedural By-Law to update Council and Committee meeting schedules.

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk

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friends and community for your caring and support
as Bill tried valiantly to recover from his first stroke in
2016. He shared with us his determination, common
sense and steadfastness as he faced the challenges in
the past five years. With the second and very much
more debilitating stroke, we spent a week at his
beside and encouraged with love and understanding that it was time for him
to go home to his parents, siblings and friends! Bill was remembered at the
service by his children, a niece and Gary Brohman, long time friend, co-worker,
hockey line mate and one of many of his golf friends.
Thank you so much for the phone calls, cards, food deliveries to the house,
the many donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Service and Heart
& Stroke Foundations. Our appreciation goes to the staff of the Haliburton
Ambulance Service, Haliburton Hospital, Stroke and Palliative Care Units of the
Peterborough Regional Health Centre for their very good care of Bill. The care,
support and kind words of Dwaine, Lori, Kate, Rev. Harry Morgan, Bill Gliddon
and all those who shared their memories with us will be cherished.
Thank you, Jane, Mark, Tamara and family.

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classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline Friday at 4 pm

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Haliburton Highlands Health Services has a need for Full-Time, Part-Time (Permanent and/or Temporary) and Casual staff for the noted classifications below.

RN's and RPN's are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest. The **Registered Nurse** earns \$33.90 /hr - \$48.53/hr and is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Two years of acute care practice and one year or more of previous emergency department or specialty department experience is preferred. **Temporary accommodation will be provided.**

Registered Practical Nurses earn \$30.58 - \$31.75/hr and provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a client's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to fully communicate in English.

Personnel Support Workers earns \$22.25 - \$24.85/hr and provide resident care in relation to activities of daily living. PSW's help residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. Successful completion of Personal Support Worker program which meets one of the following:
The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities,
The standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or
The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association; and
Must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration, counting both class time and practical experience.

Interested: Submit your application and resume to:

Human Resources
Haliburton Highlands Health Services
Box 115, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
E-mail: hr@hhhs.ca
Fax: 705-457-4609



Haliburton County Public Library
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Haliburton County Public Library
Requires a

Part-time Courier

This position is responsible for the safe and timely delivery of library materials. The successful applicant will possess secondary education, a valid G licence, as well as the ability to lift and move objects weighing up to 50 lbs.

The hourly range for this permanent position is \$16.08 - \$18.65.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than December 17, 2021 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



Home And Cottage Designer

Applications are being accepted for a full-time home and cottage designer at Haliburton store. Successful candidates should have a CAD design experience, good working knowledge of the Ontario Building Code and familiarity with building products and construction techniques. In-house training will be provided and assistance towards acquiring a BCIN designation.

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or
email cleve@emmersonlumber.com



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640 IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of Angus MacInnes
May 31, 1934 ~ December 17, 2017



Husband, Father, Grandfather & Great Grandfather
They say time heals and things get easier,
but for me and all of us we still miss you as much now
as we did when you left us.
The one thing that time can't change are the memories...
they will stay with us forever.
We all miss you and would give anything to have you back again.
Forever in our hearts, Carole, Duane & Family

Remember

They are waiting
by the river,
Just across
the silent stream
Where sweet flowers
are ever blooming
And the banks are
ever green.

with The Echo



650 OBITUARIES

Community FUNERAL HOME

Ronald "Ron" Perrin Sr. aka Chaz and Hawk
(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

November 24, 2021
Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital with his family by his side on Wednesday morning, November 24, 2021 in his 75th year.

Beloved husband and best friend of Barbara Perrin (nee Winfield). Loving father of Ron Jr. (Venesa) and Shaun (Stacey). Loving Grumps of Shelbie (Derek), Hailly (Morgan), Tyler (Samantha), Maria, Zach, Liam, Jacob and by his great grandchildren Nolan and Mya. Dear brother of Donna (Ron) and Jim (Barb). Also fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Ron worked for Ronald S. Sisson Builders for over 25 years. He was an excellent carpenter and builder. He will be sadly missed by many. Ron enjoyed hunting, fishing and horseshoes. Most of all, he enjoyed his family and would do anything for them.

Celebration Of Life

A Celebration of Life will take place Saturday, January 8, 2022, at the Royal Canadian Legion, Haliburton Branch # 129 from 1-4 p.m.. Interment later Evergreen Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Memory of

Nancy Marguerite Stinson (nee Easton)

Passed away peacefully at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre on December 5, 2021.


Loving wife of Michael. Cherished mother of Lance (Debbie), Ryan (Lindsey), and Shannon. Nana to Brooke, Mikayla, Katie, Alex and Christopher. Predeceased by her parents Lance and Marguerite Easton. Sister of Michael (Cheryle), Eleanor (Ron), and sister in law to Lynda Easton.

A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

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THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO



CHRISTMAS MAGIC

Santa's Magic Christmas Tree
Matthew Cornthwaite
3C JDHES

Once upon a time there was a magic Christmas tree. Santa was the only person who had it. The lights went off and on it. The tree even made presents! But he was deciding to give it away. He wanted to give it to some poor children he knew in a run-down house, but then that wouldn't be fair! He was wondering what to do. Maybe he could share it with everyone, but how? Maybe Santa should put it in the town square. That's what he did! Everyone got presents because everytime Santa walked by, it would make presents!

The Best Gift
Haley Emmerson
3C JDHES

Once there was a little girl named Betsy. She was poor. She had no family. He had died and her mom got remarried and it was almost Christmas (in a couple of months.) She thought for a while. Now I know what I'll do for Christmas. I'll decorate my pets. So Betsy figured out a way to do it. She was lonely and wanted to have a family. Finally the day came when Christmas was just around the corner. Betsy wished every night. She wished, "Oh, if I could only have a family!" She wanted something else as well - a small teddy bear. The next day was Christmas and she got that special thing - a cuddly brown teddy bear. A family across the street called and said they wanted to adopt her. She was very happy!

Dear Santa...
Nikki Scott
3C JDHES

Dear Santa:
I like the gifts I get from you. My mom said if I ever see you putting presents under the Christmas tree to wake her up. Why has no one ever seen you before? Instead, they see your helpers dressed like you! Santa, can I ask you a favour? Make sure that everyone gets a present in Canada? Please write back.

Christmas Is...
Ben Neve
3C JDHES

Christmas is...
Sitting by the fire,
Sipping cocoa,
Eating chestnuts,
The sound of laughter,
Threading garlands...
My favourite part is Christmas Dinner.



Haliburton students put some action into their sweet rendition of Away in the Manger

Christmas Is...
Trevor R. Ottley
3C JDHES

Christmas is a time of joyful spirit. It is also a time of tearing up presents and making children happy. It's a time of sweet tarts being baked in the oven, and a time of Santa's reindeers' hooves prancing on the rooftops. That is what Christmas is to me.

Everywhere it is Christmas Tonight!
Jason Chambers
3C JDHES

Everywhere it is Christmas tonight!
Santa will surely have a fight
With all the snow and ice around,
His poor reindeer will not be found!
Please clear up for Santa's trip!

Christmas - Then and Now
Reinhold Lowenberger
3C JDHES

One hundred years ago pioneers used to make their own gifts. Now we buy our gifts. They used to make their own decorations and tree ornaments. Now we buy these, too. They used to have only one blacksmith for ten or twelve towns. Now we buy metal products from stores and they are made in factories. They also made their own candles and dresses. Now we buy them. They used to make gingerbreadmen for decorations. Today we sometimes make them, too.



Victoria Street students turn into little angels at Friday's concert at Haliburton United Church

The Best Gifts of All
Scott Smith
3B JDHES

The best gifts of all were when I received a G.T. and a new snow suit when I was 9 years old. They were the best presents in my life! The G.T. was black, white and gray. My snow suit was green and my pants were black. I'll never forget them!

One day, it snowed so much
Lindsay Mitchell
3B JDHES

Once I was playing outside, on Christmas Day, and it started to snow. It snowed so much it covered the house. So I climbed up the chimney. I slid down the roof. I took my sled and slid down the roof again and played again until it melted down again. I played in the snow until it was time for dinner. After dinner I went back out. When my mom called me I said, "In a minute, mom!" So I went in and went to bed and had a wonderful dream about snow.
The End.

21st SECTION Tuesday, December 20, 1993



Students squeal with delight when Santa visits Victoria Street carol sing

The Magic Christmas Tree
Billie-Jo Stamp
3B JDHES

Once I saw a smiling Christmas tree. It said "Howdy" to me. I said "Hi!" He didn't move. I said, "Hi!" again. He still didn't move, so I walked away. It followed me to bed. I got into bed. I woke up in the morning and the tree said "Hello!" I said "Hello!" back. We were friends. The End.

The Magic Christmas Tree
Kyle Boughner
3B JDHES

One snowy day my mom and dad took me to get a Christmas tree. I saw a nice Christmas tree. I said, "I want this one." Then they said, "O.K." I was so happy that the whole town heard me say YIPPEEY! So my dad went home and got the chain saw and came back and cut it down. When we got back to my house it was time for bed. Then I wished that the tree was magic. The next morning in Christmas. Before I got out of my bed I wished that I received all of the presents I wanted. Then I jumped out of bed and ran and looked at the Christmas tree. There right under it were all of the things I had wished for. Then I yelled "Mom, dad get up!" They got up and said "What do you want?" I said "This is a magic Christmas tree! Last night I wished for a magic Christmas tree and my wish came true!"

Christmas
Drawings by
Veronica ABLett
Wilberforce School
Grade 3



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TWELVE MILE LAKE ROAD \$1,995,000

NEW LISTING



A RARE FIND! 1677 feet of frontage and 6+ acres fronting on both beautiful Twelve Mile Lake and Little Boshkung Lake. This point lot is totally private and takes in multiple exposures and has stunning lake views. The historic "Strathcona Lodge" was located here. The original foundation is still present and has the potential to be built on. Two small historic cabins are also on the subject property. Don't miss this opportunity to build your dream home or getaway on one of the most peaceful settings in Haliburton County. Price is plus HST

MOUNTAIN STREET \$539,000



Fantastic home, situated on a year-round road in a lovely private neighbourhood. This lovingly owned and maintained home features 3 bdrms and full bathrm on the main level. Enjoy tons of natural lighting in the bright, spacious living room, dining area and kitchen. Step out to the sunroom and feel immersed in nature - overlooking the beautiful flowing creek and forest. Finished lower level with den/bedroom, renovated 3pc bathrm, and large rec room. Great sized lot and large double carport. This family home offers endless possibilities.

KAWAGAMA LAKE \$279,000



Stunning south views across the lake. This property has a fantastic shoreline of mixed sand/gravel gradual entry to the water. Hydro is at the lot line and there is good cell service. This is easily accessible from either marina on the lake. Enjoy this affordable lot in the summer while you make your plans for your new cottage. Great fishing year-round and fantastic snowmobiling in the winter.

STILLS ROAD \$128,500

SOLD



This beautiful 1.2-acre building lot is located in the heart of Eagle Lake. Driveway installed and building site is cleared and ready for your year-round home or getaway. Many apple trees throughout the property. Stunning park-like setting. Surrounded by mature trees in a quiet neighbourhood. Paved year-round municipal road. Walking distance to Eagle Lake Country market, Eagle Lake public beach and boat launch. Stop dreaming and start building your dream home or cottage.

WENONA LAKE \$94,500

SOLD



Fantastic lot in a quiet area. This 0.42-acre lot is the perfect spot to build your families dream cottage or home. Conveniently located on a year-round road with hydro and telephone available and located 15 minutes from Haliburton village. Surrounded by mature trees providing ample privacy. 1/12 interest (ownership) in waterfront lot 62 which has a beautiful sand shoreline and western exposure overlooking Wenona Lake. Adjacent lot is owned by the municipality adding additional privacy.

CHELSEA LANE \$69,900

SOLD



This pretty 1.52-acre lot is in the vicinity of the 3 lake chain- Green-Maple-Beech. Deeded access to Maple Lake within walking distance. Situated just outside West Guilford, between Carnarvon and Haliburton with easy seasonal access off HWY 118. The lot is fairly level with a slight elevation to a great spot to build your retreat. Surrounded by mature trees in a quiet area. Ample privacy and lots of space for the family to enjoy the outdoors.

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